

**SERVE DC
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMISSION ON NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

2009 Make A Difference Day Grant Competition

Notice: *Attendance at an information session is required in order to be eligible to apply for this grant. Sessions are scheduled for Wednesday, August 12, 2009 from 5:30pm to 7:00pm, Monday, August 17, 2009 from 5:30pm to 7:00pm, and Thursday, August 27, 2009 from 5:30 to 7:00pm at One Judiciary Square 441 4th ST, NW, Suite 1140N.*

Summary: Serve DC – The Mayor’s Office on Volunteerism is offering grants to support community service projects organized for 2009 Make A Difference Day, October 24, 2009, the most encompassing national day of helping others. **Three grants worth up to \$3700 each** will be awarded.

Known as the "national day to help others," Make A Difference Day is a national effort designed to mobilize citizens in communities across the country in volunteer service. Make A Difference Day is sponsored by *USA WEEKEND Magazine* and held in partnership with HandsON Network and is supported by Newman's Own, in collaboration with celebrities, government, nonprofits and businesses. This year, Serve DC will focus its attention on this day to engage persons of all backgrounds regardless of disability, race, national origin, or religion. On this day, DC residents will “do good” and engage hundreds of volunteers.

Awards will be made to nonprofits, public schools, universities, community groups, faith-based organizations, government agencies, or public organizations to support service projects based on community needs and a culminating celebration to rejoice in the contribution to the community. These activities will enable communities to meet critical needs that include environmental, educational, public safety, homeland security, and other community needs. Additionally, applicants must propose to institute a reflection and celebration activity to promote long term service commitment.

Criteria for eligible applicants: Eligible applicants are local nonprofit organizations, universities, and state and local units of government. Programs applying to Serve DC for funding must conduct the project only within the District of Columbia. An organization described in Section 501 (c) (4) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. 501 (c)(4), that engages in lobbying activities is **not** eligible to apply, serve as a host site for the project, or act in any type of supervisory role in the program. **Individuals are not eligible to apply.**

All eligible applicants must meet all of the applicable requirements contained in the application guidelines and instructions. The Make A Difference Day Grant Application will be released on Friday, August 7, 2009 at 9:00am. **The deadline is Tuesday, September 8, 2009 at 12:00 p.m.**

The schedule for information sessions is as follows: One Judiciary Square, 441 4th St, NW, Suite 1140N, Wednesday, August 12, 2009, Monday, August 17, 2009, and Thursday, August 27, 2009 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

All interested applicants must register and attend one technical assistance session in order to apply for funds. To RSVP for a training session, please contact Isabel I. Spake, AmeriCorps VISTA, Disability Inclusion Initiative at (202) 727-7928 or isabel.spake@dc.gov.

Serve DC anticipates awarding grants of up to \$3700 for Make A Difference Day grants. The actual number and dollar amount of the awards will depend upon the number of approved applications received and requested dollar amount.

Applications can be obtained from 441 4th Street NW, Suite 1140N, Washington, DC 20001 or downloaded and printed from the Serve DC Web site at www.serve.dc.gov on or after August 7, 2009. For additional information, please call Isabel I. Spake at (202) 727-7928.